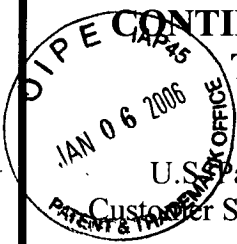


RCE # 444



**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop RCE
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Application Number	09/523,853
Filing Date	March 13, 2000
First Named Inventor	Hadi PARTOVI et al.
Art Unit	2141
Examiner Name	Q. Nguyen
Attorney Docket Number	0055-0023

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 (Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).
- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____.
- ii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply iii. ☒ Amendment/Reply Transmittal Letter
- ii. ☒ Notification of Loss of Entitlement to Small Entity Status
2. Miscellaneous
- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____
3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed on or after 01/04/2006. 00000057 09523853
- a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayment to the Deposit Account No. _____
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☒ Other Additional Claim Fees in the amount of \$200.00
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 990.00 enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)
- WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

CUSTOMER NUMBER: 58563

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print / Type)	Paul A. Harrity	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	39,574
Signature		Date	January 6, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print / Type)	
Signature	Date